

7th February 1925]

III.—RESOLUTIONS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF THE 24TH OCTOBER 1924.

19. That the Oriental Arts Series and Sarma's Portfolio of Drawings be bought for the use of the Members.

20. That exhaust-fans be provided in the bath room.

21. That small mats or carpets be provided for Muhammadan Members for use during prayers.

22. That the Government be again requested to make an allotment of Rs. 5,000 to be placed at the disposal of the House Committee for such uses as they may consider necessary for the carrying out of their resolutions.

23. That lockers be provided for the use of Members as per plan enclosed.

24. That separate rooms for the Leaders and Whips of the Ministerial and Opposition parties in the House and for the Deputy President are absolutely necessary and that the Government be requested to take immediate steps to provide the same and that, if necessary, the Legislative Council Chambers be extended.

ACTION TAKEN THEREON.

The Government considered that this publication was unsuitable for being placed in the Legislative Council library.

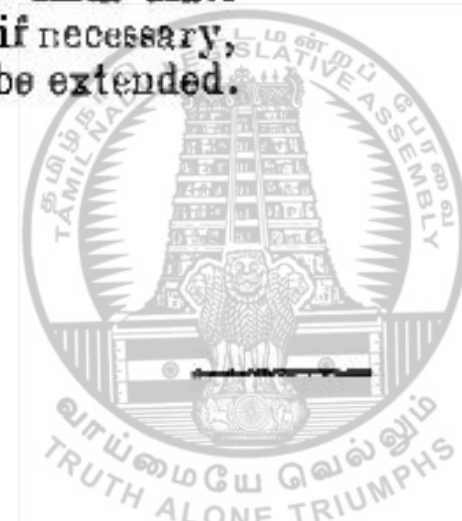
The estimate for the work prepared by the Electrical Engineer is under consideration in the Law Department.

These articles will be purchased and supplied.

The Government have in their Memorandum dated 8th December 1924 expressed their inability to sanction the lump allotment asked for.

The Secretary suggested that 40 or 50 lockers might be made for the present. The hon. the Finance Member wanted to have an ocular demonstration of the lockers and arrangements for the same are being made.

In their Memorandum dated 8th December 1924 the Government stated that no rooms were available.



R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Council.

APPENDIX II

[Vide debate on the Madras Civil Courts Bill at page 503 supra].

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE
MADRAS CIVIL COURTS BILL.

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

WE, the members of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Madras Civil Courts Bill, have the honour to submit the following report.

2. We held our meeting on the 4th February.

3. We append an amending Bill which embodies the changes needed to enable the Local Government to appoint more than one Subordinate Judge or District Munsif to a

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- (e) whether the rules are different as regards the in-patients and if so, in what respects;
- (f) whether the Government Orders governing the matters above referred to will be placed on the table of the House;
- (g) whether medicines are sold in the hospitals to those getting an income of more than Rs. 30 a month; and
- (h) whether the 2 annas payable by the out-patients each time they attend the hospitals is the admission fee or cost of medicine?

A.—(a) Medical advice is free to the following persons who are treated in Government hospitals:—

- (1) All Government servants.
- (2) In the out-patient department all persons with incomes below Rs. 100 a month.
- (3) In the in-patient department all persons with incomes below Rs. 50 a month.
- (b) The above rule has been in force since 1916. No alteration is proposed.
- (c) Persons not in Government service who are in receipt of an income of Rs. 100 or more a month are not admitted as out-patients except in cases of emergency. There has been no change in this rule since it was first made in 1916 and none is under contemplation.
- (d) Under the rules, out-patients with incomes exceeding Rs. 30 per mensem have to pay a fee of 2 annas for medicines supplied on each occasion. In the course of the audit of the accounts of one of the district headquarter hospitals for 1923-24, it was noticed that recoveries of charges for medicines were made in comparatively few cases only and that the income of the patients was not being noted in the nominal register. In order to ensure that charges recoverable under the rules are recovered in all cases, the Government have ordered that the income of patients should be noted in the nominal registers.
- (e) & (f) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.Os. No. 899, Medical, dated 17th September 1917, and No. 1454, P.H., dated 1st November 1921, which have been laid on the table.
- (g) The hon. Member is referred to the first part of the answer to clause (d) of this question.
- (h) The amount represents payment for medicines supplied.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“ With reference to answer to clause (a), may I know why such distinction should be made in the matter of medical advice ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Hospitals are generally intended to give medical relief to the poorer classes.”

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“ Why should the rich tax-payer who is charged for maintaining the medical staff be denied even mere advice gratis ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The rich, Sir, are at liberty to have private advice from the medical profession.”

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Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“ Why should they charge for medical advice ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ As I have said, the hospitals are intended for the poorer classes and therefore it is that they are attended to freely. Others have to pay.”

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“ The point is whether they are to be denied even mere advice when they are contributing by their taxes for the maintenance of medical services ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I have already stated that they are at liberty to take advice from private medical practitioners and pay for the advice. If they go to the hospitals, they should pay too.”

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“ Then are the hospitals meant only for the poor and not for the rich ? ”

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—“ It is said that medical advice is free to all Government servants whatever their incomes may be. May I know the reasons ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The reason is one of relation between the employer and the employee, and it is the duty of the employee to look to the medical relief of the employer.”

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“ On that footing, the people are the employers and Government servants are their employees, because the latter are paid out of the taxes taken from the former.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I do not think that analogy holds good. The relation between the people and the State is not the same as that between the employee and employer.”

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—“ With regard to answer (a) (3), in the case of persons with incomes of Rs. 50 and above, are they not entitled to be treated even on payment ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Yes.”

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ May I know whether the rich private patients are admitted into the hospital and given free treatment ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I do not think they are given free treatment; they are charged.”

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—“ May I ask whether the Government are aware that this House has by a large majority strongly recommended that all the State hospitals should be thrown open to all, the well-to-do and the poor alike ? . . . so long as these institutions are maintained out of the tax-payers' money.”

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“ May I remind the hon. the Chief Minister that we need not incur additional charges if the existing doctors are asked to serve the public with their advice—rich and poor alike ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I do not follow the argument of my hon. Friend. If the number of patients increase, the number of the staff will necessarily have to be increased; an indiscriminate admission of patients means greater cost of the maintenance of hospitals.”

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Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“ Am I to take it that Government medical officers cannot refuse free advice, except on the ground of want of time ? ”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether there has been any marked change in the number of patients after this rule was introduced ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I cannot say that off-hand. I should like to have notice of this question.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask what is the total amount he is really getting by means of the charging system ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The hon. Member is at liberty to ask a separate question on this.”

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ May I ask the hon. the Minister whether these private patients are charged according to their income or according to the fancy of the surgeons and physicians ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Sir, they are charged according to the income.”

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—“ Are the Government guaranteeing private medical advice to all rich people who are not seeking the hospitals ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ That is not their look-out.”

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—“ If medical people are not available, can Government guarantee medical advice on reasonable fee ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Yes ; the Government are discharging their duties by educating a number of people and by imparting them the requisite medical knowledge.”

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—“ The Government's responsibility does not end there. The Government take tax from the people and they ought to see that there are medical people enough to give medical advice to the people whom the Government prevents from taking advice from the hospital.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ To the extent to which they are educated Government are responsible and they are discharging their responsibilities.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Have the doctors the power to demand any amount of fees and to refuse assistance if the same is not paid ? It seems at present the doctors are not bound to give medical help to patients unless they pay what the doctors want.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Yes, what applies to the legal profession applies also to the medical profession.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Are there courts of justice in this department for people to appeal to when they are denied justice ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ What I meant to say was that the matter was entirely between the patients and the doctors as in the legal profession it is between the lawyers and their clients.”

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Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“I am sorry even there the hon. the Minister is wrong. Lawyers are bound to receive only the stipulated fee.”

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“Is the Chief Minister aware that the lawyers are not paid by the State?”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“I would request hon. Members not to digress further in this direction.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“May I ask the hon. the Minister to give us an idea of the grant which the House will have to vote if the wishes of the House in this matter are to be carried out?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“I think the cost of the medical department now comes to about Rs. 54 lakhs and that it will come to four times that amount if the hon. member's wishes are to be carried out.”

Bao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—“From clause (h) it is clear that the amount paid represents payment for medicine supplied and not for service rendered to the out-patients drawing Rs. 30 per mensem. That being the attitude so far taken, may I request the hon. the Minister to extend the principle so far as the other people are concerned?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“The question will be considered.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“May I know who fixes the income of the patient who seeks medical help? Is it the patient himself or the doctor?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“I think it is the superintendent of the hospital.”

Inoculation against dysentery, etc.

* 246 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what are the various measures that the Government have taken for securing to the people in this Presidency vaccination or inoculation against dysentery, cholera, enteric fever, influenza, smallpox, etc.

(b) what are the various forms of vaccination or inoculation adopted; and

(c) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the tabloid system of prophylactic, discovered by Professor Besredka of the Pasteur Institute at Paris, and whether any endeavour has been made to introduce this system in this Presidency or other parts of India?

A.—(a) Arrangements have been made for District Health Officers and District Medical Officers to carry out protective inoculations in the case of epidemics of the following diseases :—

Cholera, Plague, and Influenza.—As a routine method, prophylactic injections of anti-tetanus serum is given in hospitals where infected wounds are dealt with, as in cases of street accidents. In special cases, as in the case of labour units, when necessary, protective inoculations against the fevers of Enteric group can be carried out, as well as inoculations protecting against Bacillary Dysentery. In suitable cases, the protection